LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CANINE TRAVAIL

More Examples

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—I wish to thank you for your promptness in publishing my letter in yesterday's "N.-C.D.N." regarding my visit to the Chinese City and asking for a home for a Tibetan Poodle; also for your kind co-operation in putting interested parties in touch with me; and for your humane leaderette "Canine Travail." Your caption is indeed most appropriate for it is "travail" for the unfortunate dogs which are tied up so tightly they can scarcely move, and the majority of which are starving. For instance, one shop which I passed had two small dogs tied-up near a cage of pigeons to which a generous helping of uncooked rice had just been given, naturally to increase their weight; the dogs were straining to lick up the odd pieces of this uncooked rice which fell from the cage. Their condition was really deplorable. In fact, the only way I can describe my visit to the Chinese City is that it was "heart-breaking." On the other hand, we realize that the more dogs we purchase there, the more will be stolen to meet the demand. You will notice I say "stolen" inasmuch as, prior to my visit there, I had sent my servant to see if he could find a French Poodle for me, and he was told to come back in three days and one would be there for him. However, I made a point of visiting the two shops who had promised to have French Poodles but they did not, have any and said they could not get them! This bartering of dogs will continue in the Chinese City until there is some regulation enforced to prohibit it, and I do wish someone more learned then I am in this matter could suggest a remedy.

Will you, through the medium of your paper, please thank for me, all those who kindly telephoned offering the Tibetan Poodle a home. I am glad to say he was claimed by his owner and has gone home happy and contented. Might I suggest that anyone desiring a dog should go to the Chinese City, also the S.M.C. and French kennels?

HUMANE.

Shanghai, June 30.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Case for Extension

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—Both as a parent and as a teacher the writer heartily endorses the views expressed by PARENT and PARENTS OF TWO regarding the date regarding the date set for the re-opening of the Girls' Cathedral School. September 6 is too early. Anyone with experience of Shanghai summers knows that the first half of September is apt to be very trying. Anyone with teaching experience knows too that it is impossible to settle down to regular work before October because of children coming in late. Many people do not return from their holidays till the second or third week of September. One cannot but feel, all things considered, that the date set for the re-opening of the French Municipal School, September 16 is a much more sensible one. It is to be feared though that letters to the paper will not bring about a postponement. It would be better for these correspondents and others interested to appeal direct to the School Committee. It is only reasonable to think that they would consider the matter and that they would be willing to name a later date for the re-opening of school, say, September 16. That would give time for the late comers to settle in so that work could commence in real earnest by October. Work would not suffer but would benefit by the change.

Such an appeal should be made forwith so that an announcement might be made in the local press. Many people have not yet left, and those who have would soon learn of the postponement. Very few sensible people would think September 16 too late.

PAMASTER.

Shanghai, June 29.

EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS

Some Old Time Memories

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—May I congratulate the REV. P. C. MATTHEWS on his very sensible letter respecting employment for local youths here who hold a "school certificate." I am rather inclined to feel that the requests for local boys show a complete change of the times, because in the old days of 30 to 40 years ago local boys of the same class had great difficulty in getting positions at all, due of course to the few firms then existing, and I rather wonder if there are many more firms now than there formerly were, because it is evident many have given up owing to the severe depression, which is not yet by any means over.

It would have been very interesting had MR. MATTHEWS made it clear from what particular trade or line of business, other than purely mercantile firms, came the request for youths. Would it be engineering firms, the Municipal Council, the oil and tobacco companies, chartered accountants' offices, or such special establishments? I wonder—because in the old days youths here were taken into offices at $50 or so per month and they were left to their own fate, managers or heads of firms and departments being obviously indifferent to their welfare on beginning their careers or even afterwards; the general rule was to have experienced men of about 25 years of age from home on a 3-5 years' agreement.

Of course, in offices here youths did not then get the same personal and necessary training compared with the home youth; with them there was no copying of letters, delivering letters, attending the counter and telephone, to eventually in one or two years get a higher desk position keeping subsidiary books of the firm, correspondence, getting experience in sales or buying departments, manifest writing and such like.

From MR. MATTHEWS' statement it seems that, due to the local economic situation, some offices must be after a lower-priced assistant, because these "school certificated" boys can be quite useful in an office here if they will apply themselves earnestly in the beginning and learn to do useful work such as writing up a cash book, doing duplicating work, typewriting and shorthand, filing work, etc., all for $100 to $200 per month to begin—and quite enough pay for a beginner. As regards their future, I feel with MR. MATTHEWS that the days of the foreigner in China are very doubtful and become more so a time goes on.

There is, however, no use whatever in comparing the request for boys at home with Shanghai; there has always been a very large surplus of youths of school age seeking employment—"What shall we do with our boys" has been the shout during the past half-century and longer, due largely to the fact that parents or youths are too particular and undecided until by *force majeure* they are compelled to put their boys to something or anything; rather than go idle and earn nothing, they placed them in grocers' shops, apprenticed them to shipbuilding yards and engineering works, put them into railway services of all sorts, hired them to farmers for six months to a year, or they entered weaving works etc. The very same chances are today open to everyone here and everywhere, it is only a question of grasping the situation correctly for youths who have eventually more or less to fend for themselves.

May I add that I feel I know what I am writing about—the proof of the pudding is in the eating of it—and I may say I have met this very same type of youths time and again who took their chance in the beginning; some of them who entered the railway services I have met as managers, heads of departments, sercretaries, etc; some who entered offices as office boys I have met as head book-men; some who became school teachers I have met as professors at Universities, and I have met some who even became ship-owners of reasonably large shipping firms; some were chief railway engineers, etc.

One I knew well who started as a railway porter and became head of his railway company, while another railway porter became head man at his railway company's shipping port, where he was responsible for the despatch of 60 to 100 steamers a month fully loaded.

A. J. RICHARDSON.

Shanghai, June 30.

APRIL ACCOUNTS

Pushkin Russian School

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—I submit herewith a report of our school accounts for the month of April:

RECEIPTS:	
Subscriptions of members ..	232.00
Parents Committee donation .	100.00
Loan from R.N. Committee .	200.00
Subscription of friends	223.00
Luncheon allowance from Russian National Committee	30.00
Tuition fees	239.00
Luncheon fees	7.00
Total	1,031.00
DISBURSEMENTS:	
House rent for 2 months ..	190.00
Deposits light and water ..	38.00
Telephone installation	10.00
Tea crockery, kitchen utensils etc.	54.52
Cleaning and washing of class rooms	14.00
Stationary and printing	40.89
Daily news papers	6.42
Kitchen coal	7.02
Luncheon to pupils	47.25
Salaries to teachers	552.54
Petty expenses	17.92
Total	978.56
Balance in cash	52.44
Total	1,031.00

Audited and found correct:
Auditing Committee:
Chairman: (A. P. Pastoohoff.)
S. S. Chernoff.
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Chairman of the Auditing Committee A. S. Pushkin Russian Public School.

Shanghai, June 29.

"THE SMALLEST BOY" THE WORST

Fifteen Charges Against an 8-Year Old Lad

LEADED BOOTS, CHAINS INEFFECTIVE

"Of all the boys I have ever had here this is the smallest and the worst." This statement by the custodian of a remand home was quoted recently in a case at Poole, Dorset.

It referred to an eight-year-old who was charged at the juvenile court with 15 offences, mostly housebreaking. They involved the theft of over £30 and covered a period of from before Christmas to a few weeks ago. The boy admitted them all.

Supt. Swain said: "At one time I was doubtful whether such a small boy could have committed all the offences, because in many cases they looked like the work of an expert cracksman.

"The boy has been taken to the various places by a plain clothes officer and has pointed out in each case how he had obtained entry, and what he had done. We are now satisfied that he was responsible.

"I have 47 police reports concerning the conduct of this boy, who seems to be entirely out of parental and school control.

"His parents put him in leaded boots to keep him in, and he has been found long distances from home, still wearing them. They had also chained him and tied him without effect.

Gymnastic Tricks

"At other times he was put to bed without clothes, and was found emerging from an upper window in his shirt.

"Only 18/- of the total sums which he had obtained had been traced.

"While he was at the remand home awaiting the court hearing he gave the authorities there great trouble. The custodian removed his shoes to prevent him absconding, and later found him performing gymnastic tricks on a fire escape, 30ft from the ground."

The boy's mother said that he had wandered away at all hours of the day and night, and she had been out at 2 a.m. looking for him.

On some of his expeditions he had taken with him two brothers, aged seven and five.

"Once he got away from home; to find him was like looking for a needle in a haystack," added the mother.

Although in the ordinary way a boy must be 10 before he can be sent to a special school, it was decided to send him to such a school until he reaches the age of 16.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

B.W.A. Social Service Board.—

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in memory of Mrs. J. T. Ford.	
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The B'nai B'rith Polyclinic.—From R. Buchan	$20.00
in memory of Mrs. Vera Concoff.	
The Lester Chinese Hospital.—From Phoenix Assurance Co., Ltd.	$25.00

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For some people, monkey-gland treatment is a source of hope, to others it is a matter for jest and scepticism. To the monkeys of India it is a tragedy for many reasons, and, in an effort to eliminate one of them, the Government of India have issued a notification under the Sea Customs Act prohibiting the export of monkeys from British India during the hot weather months.

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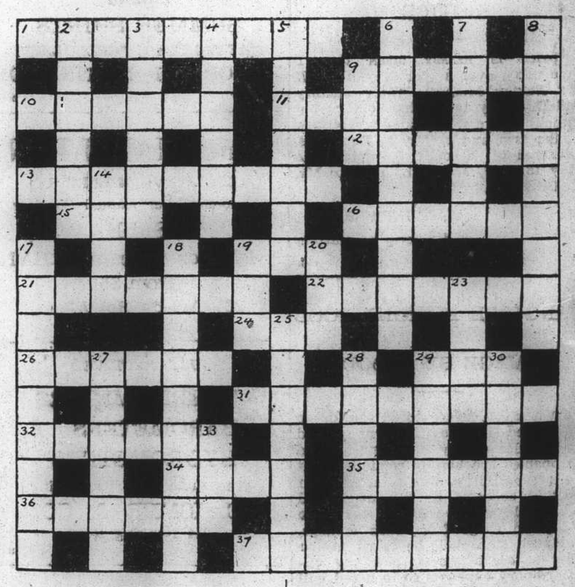

ACROSS

1 Why sounding like an inquiry as to destination
9 Not so old
10 Put a letter in a Buddhist priest to make this mineral
11 We have heard a lot about this bit of land in Russia lately
12 One of the canines
13 This is not reversed though such action is stated (two words)
15 This mark has a value in France
16 You have to turn the first part of this vessel to get a meal from it
19 Little river of Surrey or of Dorset
21 Show of courage
22 This sort of person in popular Tree
24
26 Famous German soldier
29 One of the equine family
31 Discount when buying the last in Ireland
32 Measure for its latter half perhaps
34 A much-maligned reptile
35 Opportune
36 Either the yachtsman or the tailor did this
37 A designing person this

DOWN

2 Displeasing
3 Cook would make money by upsetting this
4 Enemies
5 This reply would make a poet, Sir
6 Mechanical
7 Kind of mast
8 There is always a definite number in the middle of this kind of ship
9 Book of the O.T.
14 Lethargy
17 This makes a boat mine
18 This slanderous person shows up a bit in a supporter
19 Court
20 One of the ox family
23 A blessing that might be the thing asked for
25 Separate as below
27 Where there's a will there is this
28 Picture showing a vessel but not necessarily a seascape
29 Entrust
30 British essayist
33 A sign from a backward fellow

North-China Daily News

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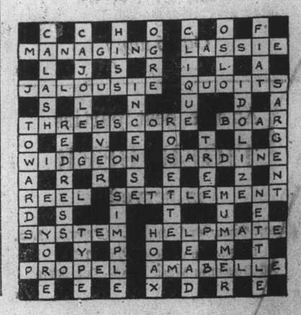
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